

What happened at Taylor's Westlake Terrace luncheon on the fatal Wednesday night a week ago, when he was shot through the back, is known to those witnesses and that it is being concealed because of the embarrassment to financial interests which disclosure would involve.

PUT ARM AROUND HIM AND FIRED FATAL SHOT.

An attempt to throw the guilt upon the slain director's valet, Sands, who has disappeared, is alleged by investigators, who advance the theory that Taylor was shot in the back by a woman who had her arms around him. This woman, they say, hated Taylor because he rejected her advances.

Mystery surrounding the slaying of Taylor is deepened by a statement of F. Parsons, a member of the "Flying Squadron" of the District Attorney's office and the first man to reach the scene of the crime after it was reported.

Parsons declared that when he reached the room where the dead director lay, the body had been "carefully laid out, the arms arranged and a chair overturned across the legs." It was his belief, he said, that this setting had been carefully arranged to throw the investigators off the scent.

Police investigators admit they have suddenly found a blank wall on every side. Evidence, once tangible, has been removed or distorted by well paid agents of the film interests, they declare.

Strange lethargy, it is also stated, has affected certain members of the Police Department since the finding of a plank in the night dress among Taylor's effects.

Meanwhile, the Motion Picture Directors' Association has issued a statement declaring the murder of Taylor to be "the one perfect crime from the criminals' point of view." They announce their belief that the mystery surrounding the shooting of the director will never be solved.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS FOUND IN TAYLOR'S BOOT.

Mabel Normand, the film actress most prominent in the case, has suffered an almost complete collapse. Her condition was rendered more serious by a report that her letters to Taylor had been found in the toe of one of the slain director's riding boots.

About the same time the detectives said they found these letters, Henry Peavey, Taylor's Negro houseman, suddenly found a second handkerchief, this one bearing the initials "M. M. M." A handkerchief, he said, he found near the body, but since it was said to be missing, was alleged to have borne the letter "S."

The letters and the handkerchief were turned over to the Chief Deputy District Attorney, W. C. Doran, by detectives Adams, Cahill, Cline, Cato and Murphy.

The United Press learned that a series of telegrams was exchanged in 1919 when Miss Normand was filming "The Slim Princess" at Culver City, Cal., and Taylor was directing Mary Miles Minter in "Anne of the Green Gables" in the New England.

Reference was said to have been made in these telegrams to a prominent producer who is head of one of filmdom's largest organizations.

INVESTIGATING NEW "LOVE CULT'S" PART IN CASE.

The District Attorney's investigation in the Taylor case is to include an alleged "love cult," with whose members Taylor was said to have been on intimate terms. The clique centered in Los Angeles and attempted to keep itself in Oriental mysticism.

Investigators were told by a prominent producer who is head of one of filmdom's largest organizations.

ANOTHER "MAN WITH CAP" SEEN NEAR HOUSE.

District Attorney Woolwine dispatched a special operative from his office on a secret mission during the night. The alibi offered by the son of an Eastern millionaire manufacturer several days ago and then accepted were to be rethought to-day.

The investigators were told by the wife of a wealthy broker reading a few doors from Taylor's apartments that at 9:45 P. M. on the night of Taylor's murder she saw a muffled figure, wearing a cap, crouching in the shrubbery of the grounds of the fashionable Alhambra Hotel, two blocks from Taylor's home.

Public Administrator Bryon says Taylor's estate, believed to have amounted to \$100,000, has dwindled to \$20,000. A large additional sum, however, was believed to be on deposit in a New York bank and efforts to-day were being made to locate it. Hundreds of checks found among Taylor's possessions showed that he had made frequent large loans to prominent figures in the motion picture business. The checks were turned over to the District Attorney.

The British Secret Service has become interested in the case through the finding in Taylor's home of any records and papers which indicate he was at least a Lieutenant, if not a Captain, in the British forces during the World War.

Among the records was a pass of leave from duty in Dunkirk, dated April 4, 1919, naming Taylor at that time as Lieutenant.

An embarkation ticket, bearing the name of William D. Taylor, the officials stated, showed also that he was a Lieutenant. It bore the army number P-5679 and the regiment E. F. C. R. A. S. C.

It further stated Taylor was discharged with the rank of Captain. Efforts to trace Taylor's army record are being made in London.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9.—Police authorities here are keeping a close check on steamship passengers leaving this port to frustrate, they said, any attempt on the part of Edward Sands, former butler of William Desmond Taylor, to escape across the

Pacific. Authorities believe he may attempt to get to the Far East. There have been no developments in the search for a reputed brother of Sands, reported to have moved from Los Angeles to San Rafael, Cal., recently.

"DEGENERATE FEW BESMIRCH WHOLE MOVIE INDUSTRY"

Carl Laemmle Says the Dirty Spots at Hollywood Will Be Cleaned Up.

Carl Laemmle, President of the Universal Film Manufacturing Company, to-day rose to the defense of "the great majority" of movie officials and artists, and declared that the whole industry is being besmirched by the actions of a "degenerate few."

Ninety-nine per cent. of the film personnel is clean and sound, he said. "We do not intend to let the infinitesimal 'black minority' wreck one of America's greatest industries. The percentage of rotters in this industry is no greater than in others, and we are going to demand fair play. Did the Stillman case condemn the whole banking industry? Of course it didn't. And the movie industry is not going to be condemned as a whole because of the revelations in the Arbuckle and Taylor cases."

"Hollywood is not a 'sink of sin,' the great majority of its residents are decent. The scandalous few are as conspicuous as a sore thumb, of course, but we are going to get rid of them. If you want my personal opinion of Hollywood I'll tell you: I am thinking seriously of building a city for myself and my son and daughter. I want movie actors for my neighbors. There are very few dirty spots in the town, and those few are going to be cleaned up quickly."

ZUKOR LEAVES FOR LOS ANGELES

Movie Circles Hear Newly Acquired Studio Will Be Scrapped.

Following the announcement in the Evening World to the effect that the Famous Players-Lasky Pictures Corporation was planning to cease its film activity on the West coast and confine its productions to their \$2,000,000 studio in Long Island City, Adolph Zukor, head of the organization, has left for Los Angeles.

While it is still vehemently denied at the local offices of the organization that the Zukors are planning to close, reliable information has been received that the first official act of Mr. Zukor will be the scrapping of the recently acquired Real Art Studio which has been re-named the "Wildfire Studio."

ALLAN RYAN QUILTS HIS POLICE POST

Resigned as Deputy Commissioner When He Went to Europe, Enright Says.

Police Commissioner Enright announced to-day that Honorary Deputy Police Commissioner Allan A. Ryan had resigned that position to which he was appointed April 15, 1918. The Commissioner stated that Mr. Ryan resigned when he had departed for Europe recently, feeling that as he was going abroad he would not be able to give the attention to routine matters that he had handled.

The Commissioner also confirmed the report that Fourth Deputy John J. Cray would move from Headquarters to the Old 20th Street Station to have charge of applicants for positions in the departments, the holder of patrol permits and chauffeurs' licenses, so far as they are handled now.

The quarters vacated by Cray will be occupied by Inspector Cochran of the Detective Bureau and his present office will house departments now in the basement of headquarters.

Commissioner Enright said he believed that a bill before the Legislature transferring to the Police Department from the Secretary of State the issuing of all automobile licenses here and from the City License Bureau all chauffeurs' licenses will become a law. Commissioner Cray, he stated, will then have charge of this work, which is the opinion of the Commissioner, will aid the police in the detection of crime.

DECREASE IN 'FLU' CASES AND DEATHS

Health Department Report Also Shows a Decline of Pneumonia in the City.

A decrease was shown in the number of new cases and deaths from influenza and pneumonia in to-day's report as compared with the cases and deaths reported yesterday to the Health Department. To-day 346 influenza cases were reported as against 1,300 yesterday. To-day's pneumonia cases were 252 as compared with 342 cases yesterday.

There were 18 influenza deaths to-day, a decrease of five under the 23 reported yesterday. While to-day's pneumonia deaths were 13, against 33 deaths reported yesterday.

"JOE" CANNON, NEAR 86, ACTIVE ON HOUSE FLOOR

Former Speaker Leads Debate on Congress Fund Bill.

THUGS FLEEING IN AN AUTO FIRE ON POLICEMAN

Goggles Save Flemming's Eyes, Though Smoke From Pistols Blinds Him.

LUNCH ROOM HELD UP.

Patron Shot by Well Dressed Robber—Three Are Seized as Suspects.

The police announced early to-day that three men arrested after an attempted hold-up, in which a man was shot, in Second Avenue, and a short time after occupants of an automobile had fired a shot that missed a policeman by an inch, have been identified as having taken part in recent hold-ups. To-day others will be asked to identify the prisoners.

Two men went into Samuel Goldberg's luncheon, at No. 1439 Second Avenue, near 75th Street, about 10 o'clock last night, and, flourishing revolvers, ordered the five men and one woman patron to the back room. Goldberg ran to the hall and Miss Tillie Slagle of No. 248 East 72d Street ran toward the street door.

The two thugs, enraged, began firing their revolvers, and this brought three other robbers, who had been waiting outside. The six patrons had dropped to the floor at the first shots and each of the robbers fired more than three shots, seemingly at random, without any care who or how many were hit.

Their pistols emptied, the five ran to the street and had disappeared when the police arrived. Patrick Slagle, thirty-one, of No. 1305 Third Avenue, one of the patrons, was shot in the abdomen and is in Flower Hospital.

Several mirrors over the tables and much crockery were shattered, and several bullets pierced the metal ceiling. The thugs left without taking anything.

The robbers were men about twenty-five years old and well dressed. Goldberg told the police. Miss Slagle said that when she screamed one of the five, who appeared to be the leader, walked over to her and said: "Don't worry, girlie; we won't hurt you."

An hour after the restaurant hold-up, when Motorcycle Policeman Flemming was at 33rd Street and Third Avenue, a limousine car, with curtains drawn, raced south along the avenue at reckless speed. Flemming started in pursuit. At 33d Street the machine turned east and, reaching Lexington Avenue, continued south along that thoroughfare. Flemming gained on the machine enough to see it speed east through 32d Street.

At Second Avenue Flemming caught up with the machine and, running alongside, ordered the driver to stop.

Suddenly a window on the side nearest Flemming was opened, a pistol thrust out and fired. The bullet passed within an inch of Flemming's head and but for his goggles the powder would have put out his eyes.

A smoke from the pistol blinded Flemming for a few seconds. He was reaching for his revolver when the driver put on more speed, threw open the muffler cut-out and the machine disappeared in a screen of thick black smoke. Flemming reported the incident at the East 35th Street station.

Minutes later, Patrolmen Falvey and Downing, in 32d Street, near Second Avenue, saw a limousine stop in front of a house and five men alight. As the five acted suspiciously the policemen ran up to question them. The five darted toward the car. Two got to the front seat.

Falvey grabbed two of the men and Downing the third just as the car sped east.

The policemen caught a glimpse of the license plate. The first three numbers, they say, were "127." The three men were taken to the East 35th Street station.

There they said that they were Stephen Conway, twenty-four, No. 401 East 74th Street; Stephen O'Hagan, twenty-four, No. 879 Second Avenue, and Jack Moran, twenty-two, No. 317 East 35th Street. They were charged by Patrolman Flemming with having been occupants of the car he pursued.

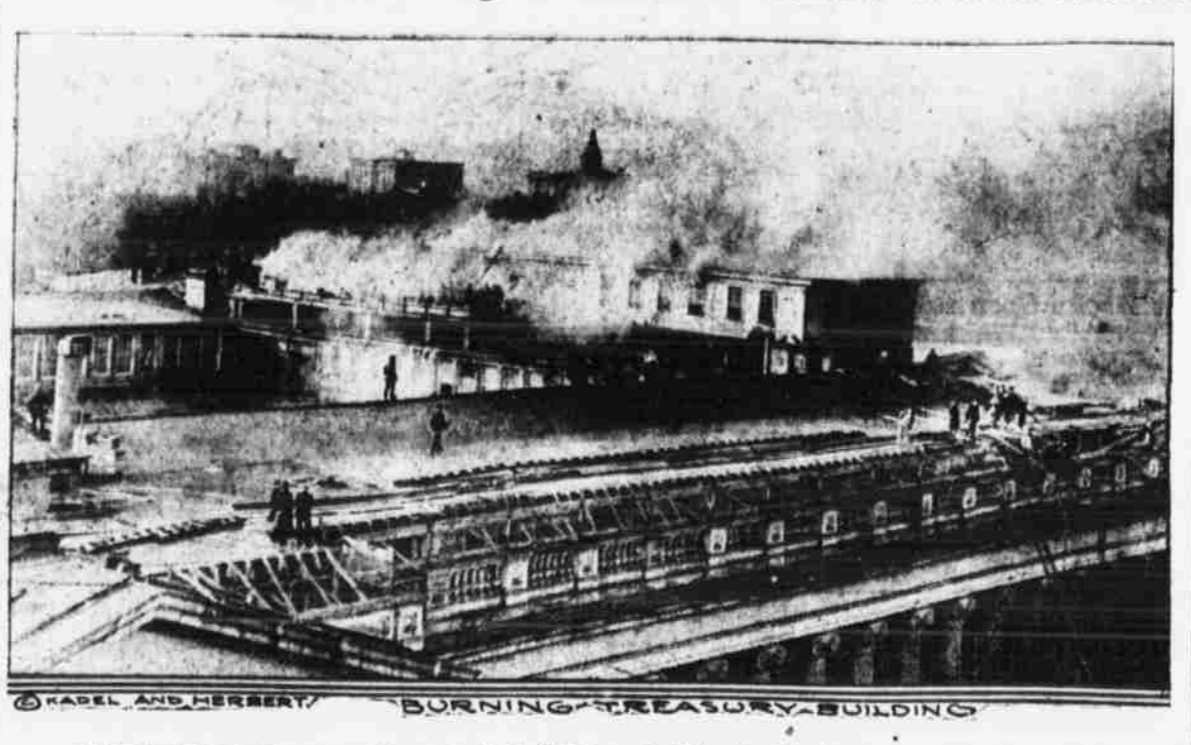
All three had pistols, the police say. There were three empty cartridges and two that had misfired in O'Hagan's revolver, they declared. They were charged with violation of the Sullivan law.

According to the police records, Conway was charged with robbery June 6, 1921, but the case was dismissed. He was tried and convicted with John Little for a robbery July 7, 1921, and is now out on bail on a writ of error as was Little when he was shot in the face during the recent hold-up in the model tenement block in West 53d Street. Little under arrest for that hold-up recently escaped from the prison ward at Bellevue.

O'Hagan has been identified, according to the police, as one of the participants in the robbery of \$1,000 from the antique store of Reese & Reese at No. 232 East 40th Street. He has served reformatory and penitentiary sentences for petty larceny and dealing in narcotics.

Moran has been identified, according to the police, as one of the two who raided O'Neill's restaurant at No. 429 Third Avenue three nights ago and took \$75 from the cash registers.

Fire in U. S. Treasury Building at Washington Watched by President at the White House



A temporary structure over the main U. S. Treasury building in Washington caught fire yesterday and was extinguished after about \$10,000 loss. It destroyed blueprints and tracings, but nothing that cannot be duplicated. President Harding saw the fire from the White House grounds.

5,000 ARMED MEN GUARD ULSTER BORDERS AGAINST KIDNAPPERS

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the release of the Londonderry prisoners.

It develops that large numbers of trees were felled over a wide area, apparently in preparation for the raiding operations, and that many trenches were dug along the Fermanagh and Monaghan borders. The operations were so extensive it is believed hundreds of men were engaged in them.

No communication was possible with Enniskillen to-day in consequence of the wires from this city being cut. Col. Wickham, commanding the Ulster Specials, has received a communication from Dublin Castle stating that the Provisional Government is sending special officers to investigate the kidnapping.

Sir Dawson Bates, the Ulster Home Secretary, addressed a further strong remonstrance to-day to the Viceroy about delay in releasing the kidnapped, and demanding that they be set free immediately. Sir James Craig, the Premier, made similar representations to the British Cabinet.

LONDON, Feb. 9 (Associated Press).—Winston Churchill, Secretary for the Colonies, stated in the House of Commons this afternoon that he was unable to present a date for the completion of the withdrawal of British troops from Ireland.

Sir John Butcher of York asked, in view of the "anarchy in the South and West and of yesterday's appalling raid into the North," the Government authorized to-day a possible arbitrator in the Ulster boundary dispute. He was prominent in the early stages of the negotiations leading to the signing of the Anglo-Irish treaty.

ENTIRE EMBASSY HUNTING A HOUSE

U. S. Officials Nearly Homeless in Brussels, Landlord Demanding Possession.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The entire American Embassy staff in Brussels has gone house hunting. It was disclosed to-day at the State Department. The building formerly occupied by Ambassador Brand Whitlock was his home and the offices of the Embassy recently were sold and the purchaser is demanding possession before the arrival of Henry P. Fletcher.

Mr. Fletcher said to-day he had been advised by Craig Wedgworth, American Charge, that housing conditions in Brussels were quite as bad, if not worse than in the United States. He was instructed to use every available employee in the search for suitable new quarters.

SCHERMERHORN DEATH CERTIFICATE WITHHELD

Mention of Use of Heroin by Physicians the Cause.

The Health Department to-day refused to accept the death certificate of Edward Eugene Schermerhorn, who died yesterday at his home, No. 67 West 82d Street, pending an investigation caused by the mention in the death certificate that heroin had been administered by attending physicians. Mr. Schermerhorn, a member of the family which is among those which have had large realty holdings in this city since Colonial days, was eighty years old.

His nephew, Col. Arthur Schermerhorn, said to-day that the action of the Health Department must be due to lack of official information. Mr. Schermerhorn had been ill for two years with bronchial trouble, and had been prescribed heroin in minute quantities to relieve pain and stimulate his weak heart action.

POLICEMAN'S STRANGE HOLD STOPS RUNAWAY HORSE.

Michael Bazzitigian, nineteen, of No. 348 Third Avenue, was thrown against an "L" pillar at 47th Street and Third Avenue to-day when the horse he was driving bolted and ran away. Patrolman George Hartwell stopped the animal at 50th Street by throwing his left arm about the horse's neck and with his right hand cutting off its wind. Bazzitigian sustained bruises and lacerations and was treated by Dr. Feigen of the Flower Hospital, but was taken home.

SOLDIERS' BONUS A NIGHTMARE TO ALL CONGRESSMEN

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the feeling of the returned soldier that he has been neglected by Congress ever since he came back from the war is coming to the surface in the demand for a bonus. Those who had no way of showing their dissatisfaction before with Governmental indifference now are demanding the bonus simply because Congress is wavering about granting it. As one soldier writes, "I do not need a bonus, but if it comes I shall receive it as ungratefully as it is grudgingly given."

Many soldiers write saying they do not see why a government that can provide compensation for the veterans of the Civil and Spanish-American Wars cannot take care of the many millions more who fought in the war overseas in which the whole world was saved from autocratic rule and militarism.

One thing that is dawning on only a few members of Congress, and officials too, for that matter, is that the payment of a bonus for the next two years will not immediately dispose of soldiers' compensation. After that will come further requests for aid, and Secretary Hoover believes the only solution eventually is to put all the soldiers and sailors on a basis which enables them to draw what amounts to a pension the moment they are incapacitated in civil life or become too old to support themselves.

RED AGENTS IN U. S. COLLECTING FUNDS

U. S. Department of Justice Watching Activities of Bolsheviks' "Relief Work."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Activities of Bolshevik agents in the United States in the collection of funds, ostensibly for famine relief in Soviet Russia, were understood to-day to be under observation by the Justice Department.

Many inquiries have been received by the department as to the connection between a number of famine relief organizations collecting funds throughout the country, with the Soviet authorities. In many instances, officials said, it was believed that prominent persons in different sections of the country had been induced to lend their names to some of these organizations as an aid to the famine relief work.

Secretary Hoover is understood to be looking into the use of his name by any organization in the collection of funds.

"MARY ALL RIGHT" FATHER COMMENTS ON MISS MINTER

Reads Proof of Murder Story and Declares "She Is Not Involved."

DALLAS, Feb. 9.

J. Homer Reilly, father of Mary Miles Minter, reads proof on dispatches regarding the Taylor murder on a Dallas newspaper.

"The little girl is all right; she is not connected with the mystery," is all that he would say.

Mary, whose real name, according to Reilly, is Juliette Reilly, was born in Shreveport, La., on April 1, 1902. She went to New York when a little child and acted with many stage stars.

Reilly says he hears from her frequently.

BRIDE, IN KNICKERS IS NOT FORGIVEN, BUT SHE'S HAPPY

(Continued From First Page.)

find a friend with a willing purse and, their certificate safe in hand, Mr. and Mrs. William Raymond Brand cast off on the waters of matrimony. They came into port at the Barrett Manor, in Arrochar, cast anchor and this morning started out on their fruitless quest for forgiveness.

First, they went to his father, William J. Brand, a prosperous druggist, who lives above his store at No. 13 Fingerboard Road, Fort Wadsworth. He said quite frankly that the Fingerboard didn't point in his direction, so the bride and her new husband trudged off to her parents in Cleveland Place, New Brighton. There they met with a similar reception. So there was nowhere else to go but back to Barrett Manor.

The romance of the young people began a year ago last May when they met in the public library at St. George, where both were continuing their musical studies. The result of the meetings was Brand's presentation to her of an engagement ring, and they determined to be married last spring. But the two families intervened and Mrs. Gerick made her daughter return the ring and all the other presents.

Night before last Miss Gerick went to spend the night with friends at Barrett Manor. Her mother followed her there with a young man whom she considered a much better match for her than Brand, and demanded that she return home with them. Miss Gerick slipped out, got a taxi cab and fled to New Brighton, where she remained the night, meeting Brand in the morning and arranging the plans which resulted in the wedding late yesterday afternoon.

VALUATION TOO LOW GAS COMPANY SAYS

Bronx Corporation Attacks Figures Testified to By City Expert.

Conflicting valuations made by the auditor of the Bronx Gas and Electric Company and by the gas expert for the City of New York were put in evidence to-day before Public Service Commissioner Charles Van Voorhis who is conducting the public hearings into the application of that corporation for a gas rate of \$1.70 per thousand cubic feet instead of \$1.50 now in force.

Archibald B. Little, gas expert for the city testified that the value of the physical property of the company for the year 1921 was \$2,285,652. Allan A. Searle, auditor for the company, testified that Mr. Little's figures were \$270,238 below the company's estimate.

Assistant Corporation Counsel William Schuyler Jackson's objection to the company's figures, on the ground that the memorandum from which Mr. Searle was reading had not been put in evidence, was overruled.

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CHANGES PROPOSED IN COMPENSATION LAW INTRODUCED

Bills Would Make Owners of Property Responsible for Injuries.

ALBANY, Feb. 9.—Important amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Law are incorporated in bills introduced in the Legislature to-day by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Recodification of the Law. Among the changes proposed are these:

To grant compensation for the loss of hearing in both ears.

To grant compensation for the loss of two or more parts of two or more fingers or toes as a proportionate loss of hand or foot.

To restrict non-resident dependents of Allen workmen, killed in accidents, to wife and child under eighteen years.

To provide in the event of injury received by employee engaged in a branch of Administration service included in longshore work and similar employment that the injured workman and insurance carrier with whom his employer has secured compensation may jointly receive payment. The one to pay, the other to grant compensation under the provisions of the compensation law, and that such joint election shall constitute a waiver of any subject to the jurisdiction under the Federal Constitution of the State to legislate on that subject.

To provide that the owner of real property other than farm property who for purpose of pecuniary gain contracted with another to perform a hazardous employment there, and any contractor, whose contract involves a hazardous employment and who sub-contracts all or any part thereof, shall be liable for compensation of any employee or any such contractor or sub-contractor unless the contractor or sub-contractor primarily liable therefor has secured compensation for such employee as provided by law.

To correct the \$1,000 required to be paid by the insurance carrier to the State Treasurer for every case of injury causing death in which there are no persons entitled to compensation, be apportioned as follows: \$500 to the total permanent disability fund and \$500 to the vocational rehabilitation fund, instead of \$100 to the first and \$900 to the latter as now.

To provide that the acceptance of the premium, and the issuance of a policy thereon, shall prohibit the carrier from accepting such premium and issuing such policy from claiming that the employee covered by such policy is not within the law and compensable.

To provide that the ante-mortem declarations of an employee killed by accident while engaged in hazardous employment may be received, and, if corroborated by facts and circumstances, may be sufficient upon which to found an award.

To include among occupational diseases poisoning by zinc, formaldehyde and hydroquinone.

A list of general amendments are proposed to the State Insurance Fund provided, the chief one of which would provide for payment of expenses of the administration of the State fund directly out of premium income, subject to suspension and approval by the Board of Estimate and Control, and limiting the amount of administration expense to not more than 15 per cent. of the premium income.

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M'CORMICK-BAKER WEDDING AGAIN IS UPSET BY BRIDE

Chicagoan Waiting in London, but Fiancee Remains at California Retreat.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9.—Arrangements for the marriage of Miss Mary London Baker to Allister H. McCormick have been upset again. L. Hamilton McCormick, father of the repeatedly disappointed bridegroom, said to-day that Miss Baker will not sail for London, as had been planned, on Feb. 28, and added that he did not know when she would sail.

Allister McCormick is in London and Miss Baker is with her parents at Montecito, Cal. McCormick before sailing said he expected to meet Miss Baker later in London and marry her there.

The engagement was long rumored, but not announced until after the war. When 400 guests were gathered in the Fourth Presbyterian Church here for the wedding a few weeks ago the bride failed to appear, and it was announced that the marriage had been again postponed. McCormick said it was because of Miss Baker's ill health.

OLD FRIEND OF ENO, BUT SAW NO CHANGE

George Foster Peabody Testifies in Will Case of Deceased Millionaire.

George Foster Peabody was a witness in Surrogate's Court to-day in the contest over the Amos F. Eno will. He was a friend of Eno for twenty or more years.

Mr. Peabody testified that he had not noted anything different in Mr. Eno's appearance or demeanor during the year prior to his death and said he appeared the same as during their long friendship. It is the claim of the contestants that Mr. Eno was incompetent during the last year of his life when he made his will and was suffering from senile dementia.

